

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/RE

DEVELOPMENTS (TO RUSSIAN PEOPLE ONLY)
(As of 8:45 a.m. October 23)

1004

(a)

REVIEWED BY Moskowitz DATE 12/12/80
story meeting reported all over USSR with
makers expressing indignation over American aggressors
attempting to intimidate Cuba.

RDS or XDS
TS AUTH.

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2. Report that Soviet Government statement has been
transmitted by US news media but that US will not comment
on it until full text studied.

3. Report that President's "blockade" proclamation
expected no later than 1800 hours tonight.

4. TASS report on President's speech (issued
12 hours after completion speech). Report is brief,
about 250 words in length, and unusually free of
editorial interpolations. Mentions quarantine against
offensive weapons, US close observation of Cuba and
growth of military potential there, reinforcement of
Guantanamo, President's statement that Cuba has become
important Soviet strategic base and constituted threat
to peace and security in the hemisphere. Editorializing
mostly by use of quotation marks.

5. A TASS roundup in English (which probably
also went out in Russian) of world reaction to President's
speech, singling out adverse reactions, mostly by "peace"
groups, Communists. Only US reaction is by Linus Pauling.

6. TASS announcement of Soviet Government order
holding up demobilization of senior age groups in strategic
rocket forces and anti-air defenses, to cancel all leaves
and raise "battle readiness and vigilance of all troops."
~~Warrior~~ Demobilization submarine personnel also halted.

7. Convening of Warsaw Pact Ambassadors in Moscow
to receive Soviet Government statement. Report of
account by Defense Minister Malinovsky to Soviet government
of readiness measures being carried out.

8. A Moscow roundtable of leading Soviet commentators
discusses the crisis. (These roundtables have been broadcast
frequently in recent months, usually on Berlin problem.) Text
not yet available.

9. The Soviet Government Statement (see our IN
earlier today)

10. Presumably Zorin's UN Security Council speech
will be broadcast and issued in press.

11. We do not yet have report on jamming of VOA and
other Western radio broadcasts but assume it is full blast.
Hence Ambassador Stevenson's speech (as well as President's)
may be assumed not to be available in toto to Soviet people.

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